

AMENDMENTS

Before Claim 1, please insert the phrase, "What is claimed is:"

Please cancel claims 7 to 11 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1.(Original) A household article exhibiting enhanced resistance to staining, said household article comprising:

a nucleated propylene/ethylene impact copolymer having an ethylene content of up to about 15 percent by weight, and a xylene solubles fraction having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 3 dL/g;

wherein said xylene soluble fraction has a molecular weight (Mw/1000) of at least about 350;

said propylene/ethylene copolymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;

said household article being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

2.(Original) The household article according to claim 1, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer is nucleated with talc.

3.(Original) The household article according to claim 1, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

4.(Original) The household article according to claim 1, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

5.(Original) The household article according to claim 4, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer:

from about 1000 to about 3000 ppm of a nucleating agent;

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.

6.(Original) The household article according to claim 4, wherein said household article is a component for a household appliance.

7 - 11 (Canceled)

12.(Original) A household article exhibiting enhanced stain resistance, said household article comprising:

a propylene homopolymer having a crystallinity of at least about 55 percent,

said propylene polymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;

said household article being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

13.(Original) The household article according to claim 12, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

14.(Original) The molded household article according to claim 12, wherein said propylene homopolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

15.(Original) The molded household article according to claim 14, wherein said propylene homopolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene homopolymer:

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.

16.(Original) The household article according to claim 14, wherein said household article is a component for a household appliance.

17.(Original) A composition for producing household articles exhibiting enhanced resistance to staining, said composition comprising:

a nucleated propylene/ethylene impact copolymer having an ethylene content of up to about 15 percent by weight, and a xylene solubles fraction having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 3 dL/g;

wherein said xylene soluble fraction has a molecular weight ($M_w/1000$) of at least about 350;

said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;
said composition being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

18.(Original) The composition according to claim 17, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

19.(Original) The composition according to claim 17, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

20.(Original) The composition according to claim 19, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer:

from about 1000 to about 3000 ppm of a nucleating agent;

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.

21.(Original) A composition for producing household articles exhibiting enhanced resistance to staining, said composition comprising:

a propylene homopolymer having a crystallinity of at least about 55 percent,

said propylene polymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;

said composition being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

22.(Original) The composition according to claim 21, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

23.(Original) The composition according to claim 21, wherein said propylene homopolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

24.(Original) The composition according to claim 23, wherein said propylene homopolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene homopolymer:

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.